

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

10/827,563

Examiner

Alexander Grosz

Applicant(s)

CHEN, SHUN-MIN

Art Unit

3673

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to AMEND DATED 2/28/05
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 7-15 RE NUMBERED 15-1-9
3. ☒ The drawings filed on 2/28/05 are accepted by the Examiner.
4. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

5. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
6. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
- (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
- 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
7. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☒ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08),
Paper No./Mail Date 2/28/05
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit
of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6. ☒ Interview Summary (PTO-413),
Paper No./Mail Date 2/6/05, 5/11/05
7. ☒ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other _____.

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Mr. Presser on 5/11/05.

Cancel claims 1-6.

Enter new claims 7-15.

Enter the substitute specification filed on 2/28/05.

7. (New) A playpen with double columns at each corner of said playpen, comprising:

a plurality of first corner components;

a first rod unit connecting the first corner components;

a plurality of second corner components;

a second rod unit connecting the second corner components;

a plurality of first columns, each said first column having two opposite ends, one end being connected to a first corner component, another end of said column being connected to a second corner component;

a plurality of second columns, each said second column having two opposite ends, one end being connected to a first corner component, another end of said second column being connected to a second corner component each said

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second corner component comprising a first sleeve and a second sleeve connecting respectively with the first column and the second column; wherein a distance between the two second columns is larger than that between the two first columns, whereby a gap is formed between an adjacent first column and a second column; and

a boundary sheet extends through each said gap and covers the first columns.

8. (New) The playpen as claimed in claim 7, wherein each said first corner component comprises a first bulge and a second bulge connecting respectively with the first column and the second column.

9. (New) The playpen as claimed in claim 8, wherein each of the first and second columns extend respectively around the first and second bulges.

10. (New) The playpen as claimed in claim 7, wherein the playpen comprises a plurality of rivets for securing the first and second columns to respectively the first corner components.

11. (New) The playpen as claimed in claim 7, wherein the playpen comprises a plurality of washers for securing the boundary sheet to respectively the ends of the first columns, which are adjacent to the first corner components.

12. (New) A playpen with double columns at each corner of said playpen, comprising:

a plurality of first corner components;

a first rod unit connecting the first corner components;

a plurality of second corner components;

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a second rod unit connecting the second corner components;

a plurality of first columns, each said first column having two opposite ends, one end being connected to a first corner component, another end of said column being connected to a second corner component;

a plurality of second columns, each said second column having two opposite ends, one end being connected to a first corner component, another end of said second column being connected to a second corner component, each said first corner component comprising a first bulge and a second bulge connecting respectively with the first column and the second column;

wherein a distance between the two second columns is larger than that between the two first columns, whereby a gap is formed between an adjacent first column and a second column; and

a boundary sheet extends through each said gap and covers the first columns.

13. (New) The playpen as claimed in claim 12, wherein each of the first and second columns extend respectively around the first and second bulges.

14. (New) The playpen as claimed in claim 13, wherein the playpen comprises a plurality of rivets for securing the first and second columns to respectively the first corner components.

15. (New) The playpen as claimed in claim 14, wherein the playpen comprises a plurality of washers for securing the boundary sheet to respectively the ends of the first columns, which are adjacent to the first corner components.

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The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance: On 5/4, 5/5 and 5/11 Mr. Presser and I discussed the invention, the claims and the prior art, especially the newly found Australian patent, and agreed that original claims 2 and 3, if presented in independent condition, would be allowable. On 5/12/05 Mr. Presser faxed in new claims 7-15, attached to the interview summary, that are allowable.

There is no teaching or suggestion in the prior art to provide an upper (second) connector in the Australian patent, with a first sleeve (122) and a second sleeve (123) or to provide its lower (first) connector with bulges (112, 113) as set forth in the allowable independent claims.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Any inquiry concerning this communication should be directed to Alex Grosz at telephone number 571-272-7041.



ALEXANDER GROSZ
PRIMARY EXAMINER

Grosz/vs
May 16, 2005